

Amendments to the Claims

1. (original) A drip berm mountable onto a drip mat having circumferential edges extending contiguously around the circumference thereof, the drip berm comprising:

an inner berm member mountable contiguously around said circumferential edges,

an outer berm member mountable along an inner edge thereof contiguously around an outer perimeter of said inner berm member,

said inner berm member including at least one clamp member for mounting onto the circumferential edges of the drip mat, said at least one clamp member having a pair of jaws for mounting inwardly of said circumferential edges and pivotable about a clam-shell hinge so as to, in a closed position, engage and clamp said circumferential edges between said pair of jaws, and so as to, in an open position, release said circumferential edges from between said pair of jaws,

a rigid flange mounted to each jaw of said pair of jaws so as to extend in oppositely disposed relation to said each jaw, said hinge disposed so as to provide a fulcrum between said each jaw and a corresponding said flange,

each said flange having a first locking means disposed on said outer perimeter,

said inner edge of said outer berm member having a second locking means thereon for interlocking mating with said first locking means,

said first locking means on each said flange cooperating with each other when said pair of jaws are in said closed position so as to releasably interlock with said second locking means and when said cooperating first locking means so releasably interlocked with said second locking means said pair of jaws locked in said closed position.

2. (original) The drip berm of claim 1 wherein said first locking means is at least one first male mating member and at least one first female receiver and wherein said second locking means is at least one second male mating member and at least one second female receiver, and wherein said first male mating member mates with said second female receiver and said second male mating member mates with said first female receiver.
3. (original) The drip berm of claim 2 wherein said first and second locking means are dove-tail shaped male members forming dove-tail shaped female receivers therebetween.
4. (currently amended) The drip berm of claim 1 wherein a plurality of said inner berm members are also mountable back-to-back to each other so as to oppositely dispose corresponding said pairs of jaws, said first locking means on a first of said plurality of said inner berm members mountable to said first locking means on a second of said plurality of said inner berm members so as to lock said pair of jaws on said first and second of said plurality of said inner berm members in said closed position, whereby said drip berm may be expanded to cover a larger area with the drip mats.
5. (currently amended) The drip berm of claim 2 wherein a plurality of said inner berm members are also mountable back-to-back to each other so as to oppositely dispose corresponding said pairs of jaws, said first locking means on a first of said plurality of said inner berm members mountable to said first locking means on a second of said plurality of said inner berm members so as to lock said pair of jaws on said first and second of said plurality of said inner berm members in said closed position, whereby said drip berm may be expanded to cover a larger area with the drip mats.
6. (currently amended) The drip berm of claim 3 wherein a plurality of said inner berm members are also mountable back-to-back to each other so as to oppositely dispose corresponding said pairs of jaws, said first locking means on a first of said plurality of said inner berm members mountable to said first locking means on a second of said plurality of said inner berm members so as to lock said pair of jaws on said first and second of said plurality of said inner berm members in said closed position, whereby said drip berm may be expanded to cover a larger area with the drip mats.

7. (original) The drip berm of claim 1 wherein said clamp member is co-extensive with said inner berm member.
8. (original) The drip berm of claim 2 wherein said at least one first male mating member, said at least one first female receiver, said at least one second male mating member, and said at least one second female receiver are each co-extensive spaced arrays of said male mating members and female receivers.
9. (original) The drip berm of claim 3 wherein said dove-tail shaped male members are co-extensive spaced arrays of dove-tail shaped male members for forming a continuous dove-tail joint between said inner and outer berm members.
10. (original) The drip berm of claim 4 wherein said clamp member is co-extensive with said inner berm member.
11. (original) The drip berm of claim 5 wherein said at least one first male mating member, said at least one first female receiver, said at least one second male mating member, and said at least one second female receiver are each co-extensive spaced arrays of said male mating members and female receivers.
12. (currently amended) The drip berm of claim 6 wherein said dove-tail shaped male members are co-extensive spaced arrays of dove-tail shaped male members for forming a continuous dove-tail joint between said inner berm member and said outer berm members.
13. (original) The drip berm of claim 1 wherein said inner and outer berm members when mounted to each other form, in lateral cross-section, a smoothly contoured profile rising upwardly from the inner edge of the inner berm member and from the outer edge of the outer berm member.